

Submitted: 7-17-24
Approved: 8-19-24

BINGHAM TOWNSHIP REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Monday, July 15 ,2024 7:00 p.m.
Draft Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER – Werner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL

Midge Werner, Supervisor	Present	
Kathy Morio, Clerk	Present	
Sandra Grant, Treasurer	Present	
Jeff Layman, Trustee	Present	
Todd Stone, Trustee	Present	<i>Quorum present</i>

Public in person: Zach Marano

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. AGENDA APPROVAL
Grant moved/ Stone supported, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST - None

6. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 24, 2024 – 3 errors were noted. Recording secretary will make the corrections.

- **Grant moved/ Morio supported, to approve the regular Board meeting minutes of June 24, 2024 as presented and amended. Motion carried.**

July 3, 2024

- **Grant moved/ Werner supported, to approve the special Board meeting minutes of July 3, 2024 as presented. Motion carried.**

7. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

8. OLD BUSINESS - None

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Parks & Rec Committee appointments

Ted Cimifranca	2-year appointment	expires July, 2026
Brian Kindt	2-year appointment	expires July, 2026
Dan Rose	1-year appointment	expires July, 2025
Jan Stone	1-year appointment	expires July, 2025
Todd Stone	Board Representative	expires 11-20-28

Grant/moved, Stone/supported to approve the Parks & Rec appointments as noted in discussion. Motion carried.

b. New Phone System for Township Hall

The Township has needed a new phone system for a while. Irvin Wolfson, who was recommended to the Township by Netlink, submitted a proposal for phone service. He represents the FirstComm company. Each Board member would have a phone line as well as the Assessor and Steve Patmore. They would be able to get messages remotely. The cost would be close to what we are paying now but with more options. The Township is currently paying \$80 a month. The benefit of the new system is that calls will go directly to the right person. That will be helpful for Morio and others who work in the office. Messages can be accessed from home. Also, a call can be picked up and transferred to the right person. First Comm provides all the phones. A 5-year plan would cost \$100 a month.

Grant/moved, Werner/supported to go forward with the \$100 a month plan from FirstComm.

DISCUSSION: Would we be able to get out of the 5-year plan? Is everything we need included? Is the proposal expired? FirstComm will submit a contract and the Township will make sure of the answers to the questions and NetLink is involved.

Motion carried.

c. Richard Lewis letter re: Airport Zoning Ordinance

The airport wants to do a zoning ordinance that includes municipalities in a 10-mile radius of the airport. This ordinance would be for safety purposes. A part of Bingham is included in the 10-mile radius. The airport is asking for one person from each township to serve on a Board. Jim O'Rourke is the County representative on the Airport Authority. The newly created Board will be looking at Township ordinances to make sure the ordinances are not interfering with airport traffic. Steve Patmore volunteered to do it if it works with his schedule.

Grant/moved; Stone/supported to recommend Steve Patmore to represent Bingham Township on the Joint Airport Zoning Board and report the per diem to the Board. Motion carried.

10. COMMITTEE, STAFF AND OFFICER REPORTS

a. Parks and Recreation Committee – Todd Stone

There is a meeting tomorrow and they will be discussing the 5-year plan and announce the new appointments. There is nothing to report about the survey at this time. Some online surveys have come in.

b. Building & Grounds Committee – Kathy Morio

Flooring will be put in after the August 6 election.

c. Cemetery Committee – Midge Werner

Deering's Tree Service took down 6 trees. The committee has been working on a grant and met with the County forester. There will be some costs. The trees that were put in to replace trees taken down at Maple Grove are nice, large trees. It we

get the grant, we will need volunteers to help and to water the new plantings. Diane Shugart is heading up the effort. There have been some significant problems with deer, mostly at Bingham Cemetery. Some debris needs to be removed.

d. Zoning Administrator/STR Administrator – Steve Patmore

It has been a busy month for permits. Patmore has met with the Assessor. There have been no new STR's registered. Patmore has received a couple of complaints. He sent out emails in response. When there is a complaint, he contacts the owner directly. Last month he met with a monitoring company (Granicus). He likes what Granicus does, but they are not the easiest people to work with. Their complaint line just documents the complaint, but doesn't do anything about it. In response to a question, Patmore stated that there are no restrictions on how many STR's can be in a mile. A lot of STR's are in subdivision. Subdivisions can do a lot to regulate STR's in their HOA contracts. There was discussion about a lot of RV's being parked at residences.

Concerning the contractor on Bingham Road, Patmore will be asking the contractor for a plan to bring it into compliance.

e. Planning Commission – Steve Patmore, Jeff Layman

Did not meet in July.

f. Fire Authority (documents emailed) – Sandra Grant

Some items were purchased with the 2 % grant.

g. Assessor's Quarterly Report (Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct)

The Assessor is new on the job so there was no a report for July.

h. Treasurer

Tax collection starts next week. They have closed out the 2023 books.

Things went well with the new Assessor. The Township did get the Suttons Bay per parcel for the tax collection for the school.

i. Clerk

- Vendor and Payroll reports

Grant/moved; Stone/supported the approval of vendor payments of \$17,043.18 and payroll payments of \$11,995.18. Motion carried.

770 absentee ballots have come in for the August primary. There are 9 days of early voting starting July 27 at the County building. The County sets it all up and absorbs all the costs.

j. Supervisor

A communication went out from the library.

Supervisor Werner received a letter from Mr. Tribble. The people who attended a Board meeting have not received any answers to their questions posed at the meeting. The people would like their questions answered and would like to meet with the Township attorney.

It is documented that the Township has received his letter.

The Board discussed the blight/nuisance situation at 10590 Shady Lane. There was discussion about how the Township would enforce the ordinance. Cost is a concern

of the Board. Enforcing an ordinance is problematic. Some Board members reiterated their resistance to do something that would cause a person to lose their home. Another Board member felt it was necessary to address this situation and rectify the blight/nuisance condition of the property.

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cindy Kacin – Several people have voiced their concern in recent public comment about the blight situation. Their perception is that the Board is not willing to do anything. The Board represents the people of the Township and the Board should act on the situation.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Kacin

DRAFT